Integrated Marketing Project for handicrafts and handlooms

392. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre proposes to set up an Integrated Marketing Project for the development and promotion of handicrafts and handlooms of Orissa with special focus on Tribal and Fibre Crafts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the status of this project *inter-alia* indicating the time-frame within which it would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) There is no scheme to set up Integrated Marketing Project for the development and promotion of handicrafts and handlooms in the country including for the state of Orissa. However, three Urban Haat have been sanctioned in the State of Orissa at Bhubaneswar, Puri and Konark to provide direct marketing facility to the handicraft artisans and handloom weavers to enable them to sell their products. Two Urban Haat at Bhubaneswar and at Konark are operational while the third at Puri is yet to become operational.

(c) The construction work at Puri Urban Haat is in progress and will be completed in six months time.

Revival plans of BIFR

393. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the BIFR bench has passed the revival plan of M/s British India Corporation Ltd. on 14.02.2008;

(b) if so, what are the directions of the BIFR bench regarding the appointment of the CMD, etc.;

(c) what are the real positions of the BICL Mills *i.e.*, Lal Imli, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh and Dhariwal, Punjab at present after the BIFR approval;

(d) whether the production has started in the above said Mills; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the modified Rehabilitation Scheme, 2008 (MRS-08) approved by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) on 14.02.2008, the Board, *inter-alia* directed that Government of India should appoint expeditiously a full time Chairman and Managing Director with requisite background to successfully implement the sanctioned scheme.

(c) The MRS-08 of BIC was considered by the Cabinet on 08.08.2008. Cabinet *inter-alia* directed that the Ministry may go back to the Cabinet with a detailed revival plan subsequently after inter-ministerial consultations. The inter-ministerial consultation has been completed recently and Cabinet may consider the Revival Plan now.

(d) Presently, production in the above mills is approximately 10% of the capacity.

(e) Due to paucity of working capital, the production is not at optimum capacity.

Retrenchment in textile industry

†394. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a lot of retrenchment in the textiles industry now-a-days;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the status of traditional handloom industry in this regard; and

(d) the details whether export has increased or decreased in the textile industry during last four years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) According to para 2.12 of the Survey Report on quick survey conducted by the Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment, to assess the impact of economic slowdown on employment during October-December 2008 in the industries/sectors supposed to be badly affected by the slow down, 1168 textile and textile garment units surveyed revealed loss of job in this industry by 0.91% of the workers.

(b) The reason for the same is economic slowdown in the country and recession in major international textile markets.

(c) Handloom weaving is predominantly a house hold activity. Almost entire activities in the handlooms sector are being done by the family member themselves and no labourers are engaged from outside. As such, the question of retrenchment in handlooms sector does not arise.

(d) There has been a consistent increase in the export of textile items during the last four years. The details of exports of textile items for the last four years are given below:

Export of Textile items

(Value in Rs. Lakh)

Sl.No.	Item	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Fibre	105324.73	350085.88	728258.84	1031313.25

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.